



FloorPrep

Legislative Digest

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

J.C. Watts, Jr.
Chairman
4th District, Oklahoma

House Meets at 10:00 a.m. for Legislative Business

Anticipated Floor Action:

H.R. 1501—Consequences for Juvenile Offenders Act

H.R. 659—PATRIOT Act



H.R. 1501—Consequences for Juvenile Offenders Act

Floor Situation: The House is scheduled to consider H.R. 1501 as its first order of business today. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted a structured rule for consideration of both H.R. 1501 and H.R. 2122 that provides one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee. The rule makes in order 44 amendments to H.R. 1501, each debatable in the order listed and for the amount of time specified below (the chairman of the Committee of the Whole, however, may recognize amendments out of order beginning one hour after the chairman of the Judiciary Committee requests to do so). The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. The rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 1501 authorizes the Attorney General to provide \$1.5 billion over FYs 2000-2001 in block grants to states to help combat juvenile crime. States and local governments may use the funding for a variety of activities, including building or repairing correctional facilities, hiring more prosecutors, and establishing programs for law enforcement training, drug rehabilitation programs, and school-safety programs. To be eligible for grants under the bill, states must implement a system of graduated sanctions for juvenile offenders—in other words, sanctions that escalate in intensity with offenses subsequent to a first offense. The measure was introduced by Mr. McCollum on April 21, 1999 and was not considered by a House committee.

Views: The Republican leadership supports passage of the bill. An official Clinton Administration view was unavailable at press time.

Amendments: As stated above, the rule makes in order 44 amendments to H.R. 1501, debatable in the order listed and for the amount of time specified below.

Mr. Kucinich will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to authorize the Attorney General to provide block grants to establish statewide computer systems for compiling juvenile records. States will have the option of making these records available to the National Crime Information Center and the FBI, where they could be assessed by law enforcement officials from other states. *Contact: x5-5871*

Mr. Hutchinson will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to allow states and localities to use funds authorized under the bill to implement “restorative justice” programs, which emphasize the moral accountability of an offender toward the victim and the affected community and may include restitution and mediation between the victim and offender. *Staff Contact: Stacy Shrader, x5-4301*

Messrs. Dreier, Hayworth, and Horn will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to expand the authorized uses of the juvenile accountability block grants created by the bill to include proactive programs, such as anti-gang programs, developed by law-enforcement agencies to combat juvenile crime. *Staff Contact: Shireen Matthews, x5-2305*

Mr. Capuano will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to expand the authorized uses of the block grants created by the bill to include funding for states to hire prosecutors to establish and maintain juvenile witness assistance programs. *Staff Contact: Robert Primus, x5-5111*

Mr. Wise and Mr. Stupak will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to specify that the block grants authorized under the bill may be used to support a confidential toll-free school safety hotline and train personnel to operate the hotlines. *Staff Contact: Jane Mellow, x5-2711*

Mr. McCollum will offer an amendment, debatable for 40 minutes, to make changes to the juvenile justice system, increase penalties for violating existing federal firearms regulations, limit access by minors to firearms and explosives, and combat gang violence and drug trafficking involving minors. Specifically, the amendment:

— *Juvenile Justice Reform* —

- * gives prosecutors, rather than judges, the discretion to charge a juvenile as an adult. Under the amendment, juveniles may be tried as adults if they are at least 14-years-old;
- * makes minor changes to current law to clarify that the procedures governing the arrest of a juvenile before formal charges are filed apply whether or not it is anticipated that the juvenile will be tried as an adult;
- * mandates that juvenile offenders who are being prosecuted as adults, but have not been convicted, must be placed in a suitable juvenile facility located in or close to the district where he or she is being tried;
- * extends the time period within which federal juvenile delinquency proceedings must begin from 30 days to 45 days. The extension is designed to ensure that witnesses and crucial evidence are protected, especially in cases involving both adults and juveniles (e.g., a case involving gangs);

— *Preventing Juvenile Firearms Crimes* —

- * authorizes the Attorney General to establish an “Armed Criminal Apprehension Program” within the office of each U.S. Attorney. The purpose of the program is to coordinate state and local law enforcement officials in identifying violations of federal firearms laws and referring these cases to the proper federal agencies. Under the program, each U.S. Attorney’s office must have at least one assistant attorney that exclusively prosecutes cases involving violations of federal firearms laws. The amendment allows U.S. Attorneys to cross-designate assistant attorneys in order to prosecute state firearms offenses in state courts. In addition, the program must carry out a public education campaign to better inform the public about the severe penalties for violating federal gun laws and encourage law-abiding citizens to report violations. The Attorney General must report annually to Congress on the results of the program. Finally, the amendment authorizes \$50 million for FY 2000 to carry out the program, including hiring Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) agents to investigate firearms offenses;
- * increases the maximum penalty for juveniles who illegally possess a firearm to one year. In addition, the amendment increases the maximum penalty for possessing a firearm with the intent of taking it into a school zone to five years. It also increases to 20 years the maximum penalty for illegal possession with the intent to commit a serious felony;
- * increases the maximum penalty for adults who illegally transfer firearms to juveniles to five years. The amendment establishes a mandatory three- to 20-year penalty for adults who illegally transfer a firearm to a juvenile, knowing that he intends to take it into a school zone. In addition, the amendment establishes a 10- to 20-year penalty for adults who transfer a firearm to a juvenile, knowing that he will commit a serious violent felony;
- * prohibits any individual under 21 from sending, receiving, or possessing explosive materials. Under current law, it is illegal only to *distribute* explosive materials to those under 21;
- * establishes a new crime of disseminating information about, or demonstrating the use of, explosives and weapons of mass destruction to anyone who intends to use that information in committing a federal crime. The maximum penalty for this offense will be 20 years imprisonment;
- * requires common carriers or contract carriers to report the theft or loss of a firearm within 48 hours after the theft or loss is discovered;
- * establishes a grant program to help states implement juvenile record-keeping reforms so that juvenile records are more accessible and available for background checks in connection with the transfer of a firearm;
- * increases the penalties for discharging a firearm in a school zone to a maximum of 20 years imprisonment for discharging a firearm in a school zone with reckless disregard for the safety of others; 25 years imprisonment if bodily injury occurs; and capital punishment if death occurs (if the offender is an adult; life imprisonment if the offender is between the ages of 16-18); and

- * requires federal judges to hold a pretrial detention hearing (if requested by the government) to determine whether an individual charged with felonious possession of a firearm or explosive device will be eligible for parole if convicted. In addition, the amendment prohibits federal judges from granting probation to any individual convicted of certain firearm offenses if he has previously been convicted of a violent felony or serious offense.

— *Enhanced Penalties for Illegal Firearms Trafficking* —

The amendment also increases the maximum penalty for:

- * transporting stolen firearms in interstate commerce and selling, receiving, or possessing stolen firearms from 10 to 15 years;
- * discharging a firearm in connection with a federal crime of violence or drug trafficking from 10 to 12 years (the bill also establishes a mandatory minimum penalty of at least 15 years if the firearm causes an injury to another person);
- * making false statements to a licensed dealer in order to illegally obtain a firearm from 10 to 15 years (the bill also establishes a penalty of 10-20 years for making such statements with the intent of obtaining a firearm for a juvenile);
- * engaging in the firearms business without a license from five to 10 years; and
- * knowingly transporting, shipping, possessing, or receiving a firearm with ground-off serial numbers from five to 10 years.

— *Criminal Background Check for Selling Explosives* —

The amendment requires a criminal background check before explosive materials may be transferred to non-licensed buyers. The amendment requires individuals who obtain explosives from federally licensed dealers to obtain a federal permit.

— *Increased Drug Penalties* —

In addition, the amendment increases the mandatory minimum penalties for:

- * adults convicted of using minors to distribute drugs from one to three years (it also increases from one to five years the minimum penalty for subsequent violations);
- * distributing drugs to minors from one to three years (from one to five years for subsequent violations); and
- * distributing, possessing with the intent to distribute, or manufacturing drugs in or within 100 feet of a school zone from one to three years (from one to five years for subsequent convictions).

— *Preventing Gang Violence* —

The amendment modifies current law to increase the punishment for certain crimes if they were committed by an individual connected to a criminal street gang. Such crimes include extortion and threats, gambling, obstruction of justice, money laundering, and alien smuggling. It amends the current numerical definition of a “criminal street gang” from five to three persons.

Finally, the amendment (1) increases the penalty for travelling or using a means of interstate commerce in connection with a street gang from five to 10 years; (2) makes it a federal offense to engage in interstate or foreign commerce with the intent of influencing the testimony of a witness in a state criminal trial through bribery, force, or intimidation (under the amendment, the penalty for this conduct will be a prison term of up to 10 years); and (3) directs the Attorney General to survey all state and selected witness protection and relocation programs to determine the extent and nature, as well as the training needs, of these programs. The Attorney General must use the results of the survey to make training available to state and local law enforcement agencies. *Staff Contact: Judiciary Crime Subcommittee, x5-3926*

- * **Ms. Waters** will offer a secondary amendment to the McCollum amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to strike from the measure (1) all requirements for new minimum or mandatory prison sentences, (2) the definition of an “armed career criminal” as an individual with two violent felony convictions, and (3) the provision that grants discretion to prosecutors, rather than judges, on whether to try a juvenile as an adult. *Contact: x5-2201*
- * **Mr. Scott** will offer a secondary amendment to the McCollum amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to eliminate all the provisions in the measure related to juvenile justice reform. *Contact: x5-8351*

Messrs. Salmon, Weldon (PA), and Smith (WA) will offer an amendment, debatable for 30 minutes, to expand the authorized uses of the block grants created by the bill to include funding to states that convict a murderer, rapist, or child molester if that criminal had previously been convicted of one of those same crimes in a different state. The cost of prosecuting and incarcerating the criminal will be deducted from the funds intended to go to the first state, and instead be sent to the state that obtained the second conviction. The amendment is referred to as “Aimee’s Law.” *Staff Contact: Glenn Hamer (Salmon), x5-2635; Saralyn Tucker, x5-2011 (Weldon); Max Chamovitz (Smith), x5-8901*

Mr. Cunningham will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, referred to as “Matthew’s Law,” to direct the U.S. Sentencing Commission to increase the penalty for criminals who commit violence against children under the age of 13, requiring a sentencing enhancement of not less than five levels above the offense level. The amendment allows state and local police to request assistance from the FBI when investigating the murder of a child. *Contact: x5-5452*

Mr. Green (WI) will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to require mandatory life imprisonment for an offender convicted of a second sex offense against a child (defined as an individual under age 16). *Contact: x5-5665*

Mr. Canady will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to modify the current-law prohibition on transporting and selling obscene material to minors by raising the age of a “minor” from 16 to 18 years old. *Staff Contact: Susana Gutierrez, x6-7680*

Ms. Kelly will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to establish a 10-25 year prison penalty for individuals who take a child—defined as 18-years-old or younger—hostage in order to resist any officer or court in the U.S., or to compel the federal government to abstain from or commit any act. **Contact: x5-5441**

Mr. Hutchinson will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to prohibit transferring any firearm to a juvenile if the transferor knows, or has reason to believe, that the firearm will be used in a school zone or in the commission of a serious violent felony. **Staff Contact: Stacy Shrader, x5-4301**

Mr. Quinn will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to require individuals to present a federal permit with fingerprints and photographic identification in order to purchase high explosives, blasting agents, detonators, and quantities of black powder in excess of 50 pounds. **Staff Contact: Beth Thompson, x5-3306**

Mr. DeLay will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to prohibit federal courts, in a civil action regarding prison conditions, from carrying out any order that would result in the release from, or non-admission to, a prison of any person subject to incarceration. **Contact: x5-5951**

Mr. Gallegly will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to make it a federal crime to use interstate or foreign commerce to recruit another person to become a member of a criminal street gang. The amendment establishes a penalty of four to 10 years in prison if the person recruited is under age 18 and a prison term of one to 10 years if the person recruited is over 18. **Contact: x5-5811**

Mr. Goss will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to authorize four new federal district judges for the middle district of Florida, three for Arizona, and two for Nevada. **Contact: x5-2536**

Mr. Traficant will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to stipulate that if a state does not have a law that suspends, until age 21, the drivers' license of a juvenile who illegally possesses or commits a crime with a firearm, then that state will lose 25 percent of its juvenile justice funding under the bill. **Contact: x5-5261**

Mr. Meehan will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to require the Treasury Secretary to expand to 75 the number of cities and counties with law enforcement agencies that submit and share identifying information about guns recovered during an investigation through the Youth Gun Crime Interdiction Initiative (YCGII). In addition, the amendment requires the secretary to submit an annual report to Congress on the types and sources of recovered guns and the number of investigations associated with the YCGII. Finally, the amendment appropriates \$50 million for FY 2000 and such sums as necessary for FY 2001-2004 to carry out the expansion. **Contact: x5-3411**

Mr. Stearns will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to add to the bill's findings that (1) there have been very few prosecutions under the more than 40,000 federal, state, and local firearms laws currently on the books; (2) programs such as Project Exile have reduced homicide rates; and (3) enhanced punishment and aggressive prosecution are crucial to deterring gun violence. **Contact: x5-5744**

Mr. Latham will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to amend the 1970 Controlled Substances Act—the legal foundation of the federal government's battle against illegal drugs—to hold any person who manufactures or distributes an illegal controlled substance in felony violation of current law liable for any

party harmed by the use of that controlled substance. The injured individual must disclose to law enforcement authorities his knowledge of sources of illegal controlled substances. **Contact: x5-5476**

Mr. Rogan will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to require that any school that accepts federal education funds under the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must adopt a “zero tolerance” policy regarding the possession of felonious quantities of drugs (amounts determined to be for the purpose of distribution) at school, by requiring the expulsion for one year of any student caught in possession of a felonious quantity of drugs. **Staff Contact: Patrick Sullivan, x5-4176**

Mr. Tancredo will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to stipulate that a fitting memorial on public school campuses may contain religious speech without violating the U.S. Constitution. The amendment authorizes the Attorney General to provide legal assistance to any school district that is defending the legality of such a memorial service. **Staff Contact: Chuck Chotvacs, x5-7882**

Mr. Tancredo will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to mandate that public schools that receive federal assistance must notify parents of the availability of the Department of Education’s publication “Religious Expression in Public Schools: A Statement of Principles.” **Staff Contact: Chuck Chotvacs, x5-7882**

Mr. DeMint will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to require that each party pay its own attorney fees in cases involving student freedom of expression when challenged under the First Amendment’s “establishment clause.” **Contact: x5-6030**

Mr. Istook will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to add to the bill’s findings that nothing in the Constitution prevents voluntary school prayer and that voluntary school prayer in public schools and extra curricular activities is not prohibited. The amendment stipulates that federal law cannot be interpreted in a way that permits recovery of fees associated with a legal challenge of this finding. **Contact: x5-2132**

Mr. Aderholt will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to establish that, under the Tenth Amendment, states have the power to determine whether the Ten Commandments may be displayed on state property or in schools. **Staff Contact: Mark Dawson, x5-4876**

Mr. Souder and Mr. English will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to permit faith-based organizations to compete for grants under the bill. **Staff Contact: Margaret Hemenway (Souder), x5-4436; Chris St. Pierre (English), x5-5406**

Mr. Souder will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to prohibit the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) from producing literature, curriculum, etc., that “undermines or denigrates” the religious beliefs of any juvenile or adult in programs authorized in the bill. **Staff Contact: Margaret Hemenway, x5-4436**

Mr. Hyde will offer an amendment, debatable for 60 minutes, to prohibit selling, soliciting, or exhibiting any picture, sculpture, video game, book, magazine, and other printed matter that contains explicit “sexual or violent material” that does not qualify for First Amendment protection to individuals under the age of 17. Under current law and federal court interpretation, First Amendment protection does not apply to works that (1) predominantly appeal to the prurient, shameful, or morbid interest of minors; (2) is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community as to what is suitable for minors; and (3) is utterly without

redeeming social importance for minors. (This three-prong test is based largely on the standard contained in *Ginsberg v. New York*, a 1968 case in which the Supreme Court held that the government has a compelling interest in protecting minors from indecent speech.)

The amendment includes a provision that allows an “honest mistake” defense if a defendant made a legitimate attempt to learn the age of a minor before giving him or her obscene or violent material. In addition, the amendment establishes a penalty for violating the prohibition—a fine and/or a prison term of up to five years for the first conviction and a fine and/or 10-year prison term for a second conviction.

The amendment expresses the sense of Congress that retail establishments that sell music to make (1) make these lyrics available for on-site review, and (2) post a conspicuous notice of the right of parents to review lyrics.

The amendment requires the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct a study of the effects of video games and music on child development and youth violence—specifically, whether, and to what extent, video games and music affect the emotional and psychological development of juveniles and whether violence in video games and music contributes to juvenile delinquency and youth violence.

The amendment provides a three-year antitrust exemption to the entertainment industry so that the industry may have joint discussions on developing voluntary guidelines on how to limit the exposure that minors have to obscene and violent material. The guidelines also may promote entertainment material that is educational, informational, or otherwise beneficial to children. The exemption will not apply to any industry activity that results in a boycott or that concerns advertising.

Finally, the amendment authorizes the Attorney General to award \$5 million annually for five years to the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise to fund direct demonstration operations and program development grants to community organizations in nine cities—Washington, D.C.; Detroit, Michigan; Hartford, Connecticut; Indianapolis, Indiana; Chicago, Illinois; Houston, Texas; Dallas, Texas; Norfolk, Virginia; and Los Angeles, California. In awarding grants, the center must consider the success of grassroots entities in youth group mediation and crime prevention, their involvement with other local organizations, and their ability to enter into partnerships with housing and law enforcement authorities. The purpose of this provision is to (1) establish a demonstration project that establishes violence-free zones through a partnership between law enforcement, housing authorities, and public and private foundations; (2) document the best practices of successful grassroots interventions in major U.S. cities; and (3) increase coordination between the Justice Department, the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department, and other agencies that support community renewal activities. ***Staff Contact: Judiciary Committee, x5-3951***

Ms. Emerson and Messrs. Salmon, Kingston, Knollenberg, and Wamp will offer an amendment, debatable for 40 minutes, to express the sense of the Congress that the entertainment industry (1) has been irresponsible in marketing its products to American youth; (2) must recognize the power and influence it has over children and young adults; and (3) must do everything in its power to curtail portrayals of pointless acts of brutality. ***Contact: x5-4404 (Emerson)***

Mr. Markey, Ms. Roukema, and Mr. Barrett (WI) will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to commission a study of the firearms industry’s marketing practices toward juveniles. The commission must submit its findings to Congress no later than a year after enactment. ***Contact: x5-2836 (Markey)***

Mr. Markey and Mr. Burton will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to require the Surgeon General to undertake a comprehensive review of published research and other sources of reliable information concerning the impact that television, movies, the Internet, and other media have had on the health and welfare of children. The amendment also requires the Surgeon General to report to Congress on his findings and make recommendations on what can be done to mitigate any harmful affects these mass media outlets have had on children. *Contact: x5-2836 (Markey)*

Mr. Wamp and Mr. Stupak will offer an amendment, debatable for 40 minutes, to establish a standardized product violence labeling system for interactive video games, video programs, motion pictures, and music, in order to inform consumers of the nature, context, intensity of violent content, and age appropriateness of such products. The labeling system must include information on the nature and intensity of violent content, as well as a minimum appropriate age to view or listen to the product. The amendment also (1) bans the domestic sale or commercial distribution of unlabeled products after one year; and (2) requires retailers to enforce age restrictions on such products, subject to a fine of up to \$10,000. *Staff Contact: Hayden Milberg (Wamp), x5-3271; Dave Buchanan (Stupak), x5-4735*

Mr. Goodling will offer an amendment, debatable for 90 minutes, to incorporate into the bill H.R. 1150, which (1) revises the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act to provide states and local governments increased flexibility in how they address issues related to juvenile crime and (2) consolidates existing discretionary grant programs into a block grant to the states to be used for prevention activities. The amendment authorizes such sums as necessary for FYs 2000-2003 to carry out these activities. Funds under the amendment will be distributed to states based on the number of individuals under age 18 in the state. *Staff Contact: Ron Englebert, x5-5836*

Mr. Roemer and Mr. Rothman will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to authorize grant funding to support projects to improve school security, including the placement and use of metal detectors. *Contact: x5-3915 (Roemer)*

Ms. Wilson will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to authorize grant money to promote or develop partnerships with established mentoring programs to provide mentors for violent and non-violent juvenile offenders. *Contact: x5-6316*

Messrs. Norwood, Barr, Talent, Petri, Hill (MT), Shadegg, Nussle, Hutchinson, and Bryant will offer an amendment, debatable for 60 minutes, to modify the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to authorize school personnel to discipline students with disabilities who have weapons in the same manner as school personnel would discipline students without disabilities. *Staff Contact: Dan LaPré, x5-4101 (Norwood)*

Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Hayes will offer an amendment, debatable for 30 minutes, to allow state and local education agencies to form partnerships designed to implement character education programs that reflect the values of parents, teachers, and local communities, and incorporate elements of good character—including honesty, citizenship, courage, respect, personal responsibility and trustworthiness. *Staff Contact: Holly Hacker (Fletcher), x5-4706*

Mr. Franks and Mr. Pickering will offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to require schools and libraries to install filtering or blocking technology on their computers to filter out material deemed harmful to minors, if they accept federal funds from the E-Rate (Universal Service Fund) to connect to the

Internet. The blocking technology—the specific type of which may be decided by the school or library—must be installed on every computer with Internet access. **Contact: x5-5361**

Messrs. McIntosh, Bryant, and Brady will offer an amendment, debatable for 30 minutes, to provided limited civil litigation immunity for teachers, principals, local school board members, and other education professionals who engage in “reasonable actions” to maintain order and discipline in schools and classrooms. The amendment does not protect teachers from being held liable for egregious misconduct, criminal acts, violations of state and federal civil rights laws, or inappropriate uses of drugs and alcohol. **Staff Contact: John Steele, x5-3021**

Mr. Schaffer will offer an amendment, debatable for 10 minutes, to require the General Accounting Office (GAO) to comprehensively study the effectiveness of juvenile crime prevention programs—of which there are 117, spanning 15 departments—and to recommend reforms for Congress’s consideration. The amendment stipulates that if a program is deemed ineffective, it must be terminated by FY 2005. **Staff Contact: Krista Kafer, x5-4676**

Mr. Conyers will offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute, debatable for 30 minutes, to:

- * consolidate the various federal juvenile prevention programs into one block grant program;
- * allow funds to be used for activities designed to prevent and reduce juvenile crime in communities that have a comprehensive juvenile crime prevention plan, including projects that provide treatment to juvenile offenders and juveniles who are at risk of becoming juvenile offenders;
- * stipulate that eligible recipients of the block grants authorized under the bill include community-based organizations, law enforcement agencies, local education authorities, local governments, social service providers and other entities with a demonstrated history of involvement in juvenile delinquency prevention;
- * authorize \$500 million for the “Cops on the Beat” grant program through FY 2002;
- * authorize \$700 million for crisis prevention counselors and anti-violence initiatives for FYs 2000-2004, with 50 percent of the grants going to fund crisis prevention counselors and crisis prevention programs and the remaining 50 percent going to school districts for safety improvement projects;
- * hold adults responsible for death and injury caused by child access to firearms;
- * require thefts from common carriers to be reported;
- * allow federal firearms licensees to voluntarily submit business records to ATF; and
- * require the National Institutes of Health to conduct a study of the effects of video games and music on child development and youth violence. The study must address whether,

and to what extent, video games and music (1) affect the psychological and emotional development of juveniles and (2) contribute to youth violence. **Contact: x5-5126**

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, #17, June 11, 1999.



H.R. 659—PATRIOT Act

Floor Situation: The House may consider H.R. 659 after it completes consideration of H.R. 1501. On Tuesday, June 15, the Rules Committee granted an open rule providing one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Resources Committee. The bill makes in order a committee amendment in the nature of the substitute as base text and accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. The chairman of the Committee on the Whole may postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 659 authorizes the National Park Service to provide funds to Malvern, Pennsylvania, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania so that these entities may purchase necessary lands to protect the Paoli and Brandywine battlefields in Pennsylvania. For these purposes, the measure authorizes \$4.25 million. The bill also establishes a Valley Forge Museum of the American Revolution at Valley Forge National Historic Park, Pennsylvania. Federal money must be matched dollar-for-dollar by non-federal funds. The measure instructs the Interior Secretary to administer a resource study of the two battlefields after the federal government acquires the land from private owners. The bill also directs the Valley Forge Historical Society, in agreement with the Secretary of the Interior, to construct and administer a Revolutionary War museum located in Valley Forge National Historical Park. Once construction of the museum has been completed, the bill requires that all titles and interests be transferred to the federal government with the understanding that the Valley Forge Historical Society will continue to operate the museum. The society may administer fees, sell merchandise and food, and conduct events in the museum to raise funding for its operation.

CBO estimates that enactment of H.R. 659 will cost the federal government about \$5 million over the next five years. The bill does not affect direct spending, so pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. The bill was introduced by Mr. Weldon (PA) and was reported by the Resources Committee by voice vote on April 28, 1999.

Views: The Republican leadership supports passage of H.R. 659. An official administration viewpoint was unavailable at press time.

Amendments: The *Legislative Digest* was unaware of any amendments at press time.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, #17, June 11, 1999.

